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S E C R E T
REPORT/CONFIDENTIAL CONTROL

COUNTRY Jordan REPORT NO. CS 3/481.268

SUBJECT Hajj Amin Shacqiti's Attempt DATE DSTR. 26 July 1961
to return to Jerusalem

NO. PAGES 1

REFERENCES RD

DATE OF INFO. Late May 1961

PLACE & DATE ACQ. England, London (15 June 1961)

FIELD REPORT NO. OEL 29979

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE Official British Service from a source described as "a Jordanian official in touch with Shaykh Sharqiti."

1. Shaykh Mohammad Amin Sharqiti, former Jordanian Minister of Education, met the ex-Shaykh of Jerusalem, Hajj Amin Shacqiti, while they were both on a pilgrimage to Mecca (late May). Hajj Amin approached Shaykh Sharqiti and sought out his views on the possibility of the former's return to Jerusalem on the grounds that only King of the Arab States now enjoyed freedom and stability.
2. Shaykh Sharqiti told Hajj Amin that he did not consider the present a suitable moment for his return to Jordan, and he suggested that it would be advisable for Hajj Amin to write to the King and seek his views.
3. When he had returned to Amman, Shaykh Sharqiti saw the King and told him of his conversation with Hajj Amin and his suggestion that this was not a suitable time for Hajj Amin to return to Jordan.

Source Comment: During his interview with the King, Sharqiti also said that it was his opinion that free elections would be wise and that the Government should prepare a list of undesirable candidates in order to ensure that undesirable elements were not admitted to Jordan.

Source Comment: Prior to his departure for Mecca, Sharqit said that he had received information that Hajj Amin's supporters in Jordan were actively seeking support for Hajj Amin by putting up as many candidates as possible for the Parliamentary elections which were expected to take place shortly.

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